CHAPTER NO. 54

SENATE BILL NO. 28

By Cohen, Rochelle

Substituted for: House Bill No. 1072

By Chumney

AN ACT To amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 9, Chapter 8, Part 3, to prohibit the retaliatory discharge of a state employee for filing a workers' compensation claim or any other statutorily protected claim with the Claims Commission.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

- SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 9-8-310, is amended by deleting that section in its entirety and by substituting instead the following language:
 - (a) An entity of state government may not terminate a state employee for filing a workers' compensation claim with the Claims Commission.
 - (b) Any employee terminated for filing a workers' compensation claim may file a grievance in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-30-328, or may file a claim with the Claims Commission, at the option of such employee, in accordance with the provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 9-8-301, et seq.
- SECTION 2. This act shall apply to all cases filed with the Claims Commission on or after July 1, 1992, pending or on appeal at the time of passage of this act and all arising on or after the effective date of this act.
- SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: March 22, 1999

JOHN S. WILDER SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER

APPROVED this 7th day of April 1999

DON SONDOUSTI GOVENNOR